

B*T*G H*I*T*S O*F M*I*D*-A*M*E*R*I*C*A (VOLUME 3)
87:10 December 9, 1987
Scott Hanson, 3508 4th Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55408-4511
phone (612)823-6142 price: 35 cents

next deadline: January 16, 1988 (phone 1/15 10pm CST)

standby list: top: Johnston, Peters, Wall; next: Bakken, Brown, Drane, Gautron, Holley, Keller, Tighe

game openings: a new season of UNITED HOCKEY; 5 teams available, \$6.00 plus sub; no Diplomacy openings

Forget for the moment the "War by Automatic Pilot" proposal that I made last issue. I didn't get many comments, but enough to realize that it's still controversial and ought to be discussed before it is implemented. More importantly, while the BNC has discussed WAP in Everything, he didn't make a decision whether it made a game irregular or not. I do not want Big Hits to be the test case.

The complaint about WAP is that it "rewards NMRs rather than punishing them." I don't buy that. NMRs punish the entire game by introducing chance into a game where it doesn't belong. WAP is a way of reducing the random effect of NMRs. There are probably less drastic ways of doing that as well.

85U AMERICAN DREAM FALL 1915

ENGLAND(Given): A gas-MAR; F mid-BRE(S F ENG & F PIC); A LVN H(S F STP/SC); F hel-NTH; F BER H; F pru-BAL; A MUN H(S A KIE); F BEL H.

FRANCE(Mallia): F NAF-tun; F bre-pic(d,r gas,otb); A par-BUR; A PDR-mid(imp); F WES-tys; F spa/sc-LYO.

TURKEY(K Brown): A tri-VIE; A NAP S A rom; A ven-PIE; F ion-TYS(\$ F TUN & S F ROM); A BOH-mun(S A TYO); F eas-ION(S F GRE & F ADR & F AEG); A vie-GAL; A WAR & A MOS MS; A BUL U,H; A con-bul(NSU).

1915 SUPPLY CENTERS

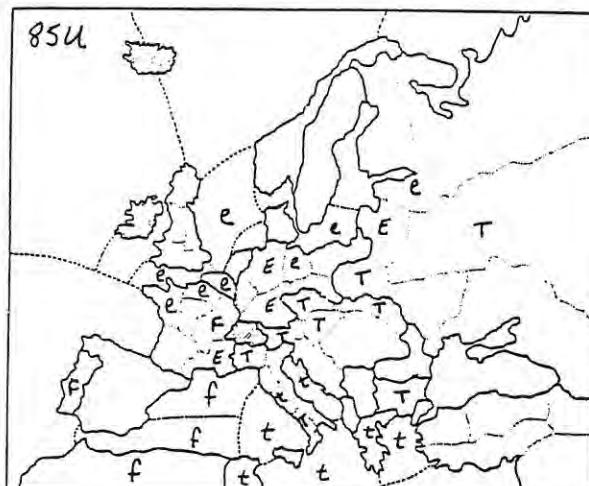
E home swe nwy den hol stp kie ber	
mun bel MAR BRE	14 bld 2
F par (mar) (bre) spa por (tun)	3 rem 3*
T home sev war mos rum bul gre ser	
bud tri vie ven nap rom TUN	17 bld 1

WINTER 1915/SPRING 1916 are due January 16.

press

TURK: Yow, is it over yet?

ENG-TUR: Looks like you win it in spite of your allie. Nice going. ((Don't pat him on the back yet, the 17-17 nightmare may yet come true.))



86CD SURFING BIRD FALL 1905

retreats: FRA A tyo r MUN; F tys r NAP.

AUSTRIA(Pierce): A bul-GRE; A SER \$ A rum;
A rum \$ A ser(d,r ukr,gai,bul).

ENGLAND(Keller): F nwy-SWE; F nth-NWY(S F BAR);

A hol-KIE(S F HEL).

FRANCE(Drane): F lyo-TUS(S A PIE); F tun-ION(S F TYS);

A mun-SIL; A bur-MUN(S A RUH); A BEL S A ruh.

GERMANY(Tighe): NMR. A BER; A kie(d,ann).

ITALY(Atkins): F NAP-rom; A tyo-VEN; A TRI-ser;

A tus-rom(d,ann).

RUSSIA(Russ): A STP H(S A FIN); A sev-RUM(S A BUD);

F bot-BAL; F swe-DEN; A vie-TYO; F SMY & F CON MS.

TURKEY(Oaklyn): F EAS-syr; F SYR H.

1905 SUPPLY CENTERS

A bud (rum) bul SER GRE	4 bld 1*
E home nwy hol SWE KIE	7 bld 2
F home spa por bel mun tun	8 even
G ber (kie) (den)	1 even%
I home tri	4 bld 17
R home (swe) ank vie smy con RUM DEN 10 bid 1	0 out
T (gre) (ser)	

*-has a retreat Z-has 1 ann

WINTER 1905/SPRING 1906 are due January 16. Would MATT JOHNSTON please standby for Germany. No press.

86CZ BOP TIL YOU DROP MENSA 23 WINTER 1905

AUSTRIA(Cheek): Bld A TRI, A BUD, A VIE; also has A MUN; A BOH; A WAR; A RUM; A SEV; A BUL; F AEG; A MOS.

ENGLAND(Beaumont): Bld F EDI; also has A BEL; F NWY; F SKA; F SWE; F NTH.

FRANCE(Coufal): Even, has F MID; A MAR; A GAS; A SPA; A PIC.

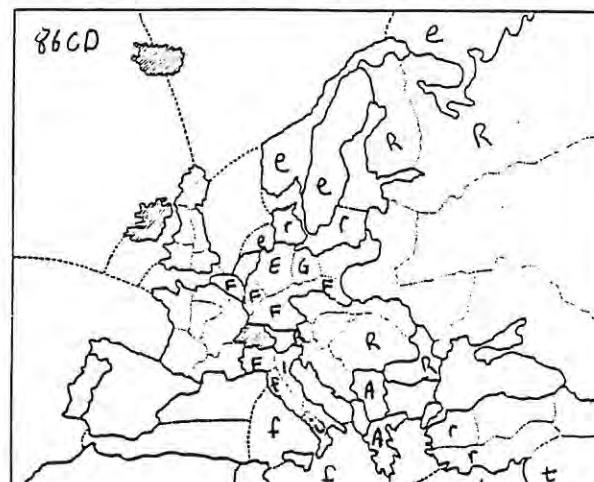
GERMANY(): NBR, GM rem F hel; has A RUH; A HOL; F DEN; A BER.

ITALY(Dousette): Bld F NAP; also has F LYO; F NAF; A ANK; F CON; A PIE; A VEN.

RUSSIA(Reges): Rem A ukr, A stp, F bal; has F NWG.

I separated seasons by discretion. Charles Byrne has respectfully declined the German position due to a misunderstanding that's mostly my fault. Would DONALD SAMUELSON, 3820 Macalester Dr NE, Minneapolis MN 55421 please take the position. No press.

There were several responses to last issue. A lot of people liked the car essay, and we even earned one 50 cent contribution to the "Steffi Bumper Fund." Such donations are not necessary. The insurance company did pay the claim after we swore on a stack of bibles that we would inform our insurance agent within 5 minutes of obtaining another car. There was the \$150 deductible, of course, but it was not the cause of our sudden swipe with bankruptcy at the beginning of December. But that is a whole story in itself...



87AS BLUE ANGEL FALL 1903 DELAYED

A bunch of small things force a delay in this game. First off, the AUS A ven-APU and the ITA A rom-VEN should both succeed. I wasn't told about the error until it was too late to correct it before deadline. Second, Les Casey has a new Postal Code which I forgot to enter in my address list. I don't have orders from him, and I must presume it's my fault. Rodney Schmisseur has a new address as well. There are a couple individual problems I'll resolve personally. I'll run the retreat and push Fall 1903 and all press back to January 16.

retreats: RUS A war r LVN.

AUSTRIA(Greier): A TYO; A TRI; A SIL; A GAL; F ION; A APU.
 ENGLAND(Mallia): F NTH; A FIN; F NWY; F SKA.
 FRANCE(Schmisseur): F POR; GAS; A BUR; A PIC.
 GERMANY(Bakken): A BER; A MUN; A HOL; A RUH; F DEN.
 ITALY(Casey): A VEN; F WES; F SPA/SC; A MAR; A PIE.
 RUSSIA(Daklyn): A UKR; A MOS; F STP/NC; A LVN; F SWE.
 TURKEY(Albrecht): A SEV; A RUM; F BLA; A WAR; F AEG.

87II THE LITTLE SISTER FALL 1901

AUSTRIA(Brown) F ALB-gre; A vie-BAL; A rum-SER.
 ENGLAND(Chen) F nwg-NWY; A yor-BEL(C F NTH).
 FRANCE(Englehardt) F mid-POR; A BUR \$ ger A ruh-bel(NSO);
 A mar-SPA.
 GERMANY(Haworth) A kie-HOL(S A RUH); F DEN H.
 ITALY(Pinelli) A apu-TUN(C F ION); A PIE H.
 RUSSIA(Holley) F bot-SWE; A ukr-RUM(S F SEV); A war-UKR.
 TURKEY(Greger) F con-AEG; A BUL-gre; A smy-CON.

1901 SUPPLY CENTERS

AUS home SER	4 bld 1
ENG home NWY BEL	5 bld 2
FRA home POR SPA	5 bld 2
GER home HOL DEN	5 bld 2
ITA home TUN	4 bld 1
RUS home SWE RUM	6 bld 2
TUR home BUL	4 bld 1
n gre	1

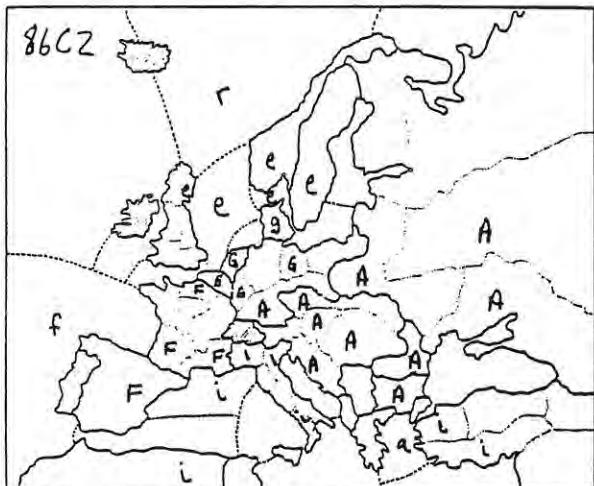
WINTER 1901 is due January 16. SPRING 1902 will not be run unless all of you agree and submit orders for Spring.

press

AUSTRIA-GM: Hey, what happened to my S'01 press? Just because you have no musical taste is no reason to exclude a quote from the King. ((My apologies, here's what he said.))
 ELVIS-TURKEY: Little Sister don't you do what your big sister does.

BIG HITS ADDRESS LIST (new/changes underlined)

Jeff Albrecht, PO Box 295, Doland SD 57436-0295
 George Atkins, 4023 37th Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55406-3407
 Dale Bakken, 3522 Evan Acres Rd #31, Madison WI 53704-6865
 Lincoln Beaumont, 13436 Polk St, Omaha NE 68137-4255



Kevin Brown, 100 Patton Dr, Warner Robins GA 31098-6640

Paul Burroughs, 8319 Hastings, San Antonio TX 78239-2834

Les Casey, 33 Nestrow Dr, Nepean ONT K2G 4M2 CANADA

Robert Cheek, 14341 Franklin Ave, Tustin CA 92680-7010

Matthew Chen, 877 Benedeti Dr #204, Naperville IL 60540-8939

David Coufal, Page House 1-53, Cal Tech, Pasadena CA

91126-0001

Tony Dousette, 530A Bruton Bends Dr, Richardson TX
 75081-4901

Scott Drane, 712 W Diversey Pky #602, Chicago IL 60614-1542

Thomas Englehardt, 254 Lang, Ft Sam Houston TX 78234-1128

Evans Givan, 8066 Camstock Ct, Citrus Heights CA 95610-4666

Charles Greger, 2621 McCulloch Rd #1A, Lk Havasu City AZ
 86403-5902

Robert Greier, 35171 Bromley Rd, Salem OH 44460-9510

Haden Haworth, PO Box 2368, Muskogee OK 74401-2368

Melinda Holley, PO Box 2793, Huntington WV 25727-2793

Matt Johnston, 3048 Spottswood Ave, Memphis TN 38111-3140

Mark Keller, 2 Seaside Ct, Sacramento CA 95831-3775

Mark Mallia, 4558 Roswell Rd NE #C-1, Atlanta GA 30343-3132
 Bernie Daklyn, 13412 Brackley Ter, Silver Spring MD
 20904-3225

David Pierce, 13521 Pleasant Ln, Burnsville MN 55337-2718

Richard Pinelli, 6606 N Glenwood #2, Chicago IL 60626-5607

Craig Reges, 16 W 761 White Pines Rd, Bensenville IL
 60106-2988

Jason Russ, Stonehouse Rd, Somers NY 10589-9602

Donald Samuelson, 3820 Macalester Dr NE, Minneapolis MN
 55421

Rodney Schmisseur, 3100 N 9th Rd, Arlington VA 22201

Kevin Tighe, 290 12th St, Arcata CA 95521-5912

I SOLD MY SOUL AND A FEW OTHER THINGS

Most of us have a price for which we will sell out all that we stand for and hold dear. Last month I found that my price was \$599. At that price I bought a XT compatible computer.

I certainly didn't need a new computer. The Commodore 128 I had for 2 years was serving me well until the very end. Anything I wanted to do at home; the zine, the mailing list, taxes, games; the Commodore never failed.

However, we use IBM PCs at school, and there I was seduced. I used Word Perfect on my staff paper this summer, and indeed the name is descriptive. It makes academic work a breeze. I did tables on SuperCalc4, a spreadsheet that puts Lotus to shame. There are also a few specialized programs that economists use to do statistics and regressions that run on PCs.

While I could read and write IBM data on the Commodore, it was time-consuming, and I found myself wishing I could do school work directly at home. So I decided to go for the clone, a made in Taiwan/assembled in Minnesota XT compatible computer.

Luckily I have access to programs in our department, so I didn't have to make a big investment in software. I was also familiar enough with the PC to know what to plug in where, since the clone came with a minimum of badly translated instructions. My parents agreed to help pay for it as a Christmas/graduation present, and best of all I was able to



sell the Commodore and printer for \$625. I had to buy a new printer of course, but I think I might have come out ahead when everything was done. I would have, anyway, had I not decided to add a hard disk.

So if any of you know of good PC programs, let me know. I did find an excellent game called BALANCE OF POWER (Mindscape). The husband of one of my classmates played this constantly on his Macintosh, and thus delayed his entry into the U.S. Foreign Service by several months. It's a solitaire Diplomacy game. You take either the U.S. or U.S.S.R., the computer takes the other side. You gain points by earning prestige in 62 other countries. You do this by supporting friendly governments with money or troops, supporting rebels of unfriendly countries with money or troops, signing treaties, making ultimatums. The other side is doing this as well, and each action may be challenged by the other superpower. Challenges can lead to confrontations, and you have to choose between losing prestige and escalating and risking war. If war starts, everyone loses. The games supposedly lasts 7 games year, but I've never lasted longer than 3. It takes a very cynical view of the world, but the game is very well thought out and is an accurate view of how a two power world works.

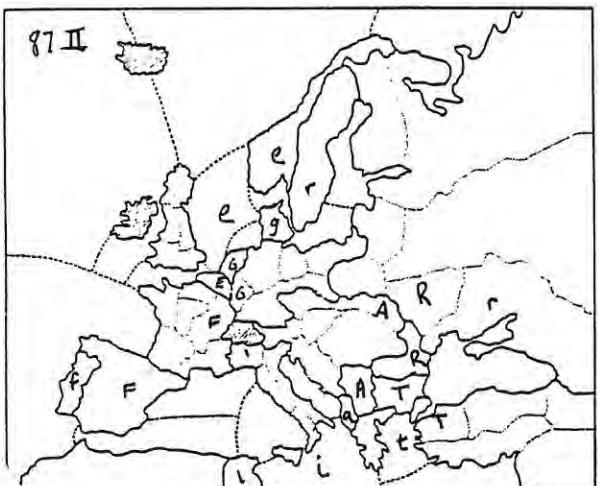
MUSIC REVIEWS

Forget music this time, how about a few good mysteries. We've discovered some good female writers with good female characters. (All of these are paperbacks, we can't afford hard covers.) Sue Grafton is a daytime screenwriter, so you can easily imagine her books about detective Kinsey Milhone ("A is for Alibi", "B is for Burglar", "C is for Corpse" (Bantam)) being set on the screen. The first person style and California setting are similar to Chandler; Kinsey like Marlowe trusts no one but herself. Unlike Marlowe, you can get to know Kinsey well enough to use her first name.

Just don't try getting on a first name basis with V.I. Warshawski, Chicago detective of insurance executive Sara Paretsky ("Indemnity Only", "Deadlock", "Killing Orders" (Ballantine)). She's liable to deck you. V.I.'s specialty is white collar crime, but she manages to find a body or two. Grafton's plots are better, but Paretsky's characters make her books the better choice. They both are very similar to the hard boiled writers of the '40s and '50s, and the fact the detectives are women keeps the style from being dated.

Completely different is "Shattered Moon" (Dell) by St. Paul writer Kate Green. Theresa Fortunato is a psychic whose mind starts finding bodies without looking for them. By the time the police believe her, they start suspecting her. Meanwhile her ex-husband comes back into her life and she sees him involved in the murders. This is not occult hocus-pocus, but well written suspense. If you want one book to keep you awake, this is it.

Thanks to Jim Meinel, John Michalski, and Eric Ozog, all of whom told us that we would not like living in Phoenix. Right now, it looks like we'll be staying. Things are going well between Frauke and her new owner. But nothing can happen for a few months yet, and we've already been invited to Phoenix for a weekend to check everything out. Stay tuned.



MIST COUNTY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PRE-SEASON GM: Scott Hanson, 3508 4th Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55408

	VP	\$K	
DIVISION A			
MOPAC	4	839	Noel Blythe
ROCKIES	12.5	2025	Alex Pyle
VEGETABLES	4	1320-400=920	James Goode
SAVOY	18-15=3	1085-400=685	Michael Hopcraft
ICEGUYS	3-3=0	1270-400=870	Bill Becker
DIVISION B			
T-WOLVES	3.5-3=0.5	343-405=-63	Bryce Allen
*FLY GIRLS	1	0	Kevin Brown
*BEEBOP	1	0	Matthew Chen
*MISERABLES	1	0	Bruce Geryk
*BIRDS	1	0	Bernard Bearry

GAME 1	GAME 2	GAME 3
T-WOLVES at F-GIRLS	BEEBOP at T-WOLVES	MOPAC at T-WOLVES
LES MIS at BEEBOP	BIRDS at LES MIS	VEGIES at BEEBOP
ICEGUYS at BIRDS	F-GIRLS at ROCKIES	LES MIS at SAVOY
MOPAC at ROCKIES	VEGIES at MOPAC	F-GIRLS at BIRDS
SAVOY at VEGIES	ICEGUYS at SAVOY	ROCKIES at ICEGUYS

Deadline for SESSION I is January 13, 1988. Early Bird deadline January 6. VPs were deducted for pre-season coaching. \$K deducted are for draft picks. T-WOLVES are charged \$5K interest. MICHAEL HOPCRAFT has taken over Cochons and renamed them SAVOY. *-designates expansion teams, and welcomed to the MCHA with a free VP. LOTTERY this season will be to guess the total goals scored in the session. Closest guess(es) win \$25K, exact guess(es) win \$100K. Up to five LATE EXPANSION TEAMS will be accepted until January 8, these teams will play make-up games later in the session. The listed divisions are tentative. A full season schedule will be issued next session, I know for sure how many teams we have and the divisional set up.

PLAYOFF RESULTS

First round results of last season's playoffs are printed this time. I forgot to save a copy of the second round results, foolish me, but I can report that MOPAC and ROCKIES moved to the finals, each by two games to one. The final will be played later this month.

RULE CLARIFICATIONS

Though I should have worked out most of the bugs last season, a few may remain in the rules. I'll listen to any comments or suggestions on the rules, and I reserve the right to make changes along the way, particularly in the new power play and multi-purpose player rules.

Make these corrections to the rules:

- 1) The formula for power play shots is $(PP+r1-PK-r2)$.
- 2) All fractions in determining lost shots from penalties, shots when pulling the goalie, and overtime shots are rounded up.
- 3) A line cannot lose more than 2/3 of its shots due to penalties.
- 4) If a rookie plays his fourth game in the middle of a session, he does not rise to SL2 (or the random SL for a draftee) until the next session.
- 5) When a team's debt exceeds \$500K, the MCHA will waive a non-rookie (the smallest SL possible) to bring the debt to under \$500K. A team may make an ordered list to players to sell if the debt limit is exceeded.
- 6) If you like, you may choose team colors, name a home arena, or make up any other team attributes. I don't have time to write a description of every game, but perhaps I can do one or two a session, disclosing only those player names listed in the official report plus goalie names.
- 7) The games will be adjudicated on the SuperCalc4 spreadsheet on an IBM XT compatible computer. If you'd like a disk copy of the template I've written, \$2 should cover the disk and postage. I can copy it in SuperCalc, Lotus, or DIF format.
- 8) You are free to name your team and players anything you want, but I will use no more than 10 characters listing teams and players in game reports and no more than 8 characters to list your team in the schedule. If you don't like the abbreviations I use, propose your own.

UNITED HOCKEY DRAFT

Four teams elected to spend the \$400K to take a first round draft choice. Their picks are listed below with the numbers blanked out. New teams are allowed to make picks in this second round. Second round picks cost \$300K. They must include a player name and are due with Session I orders. This works like the K-Zine draft. Most of the choices are rookies with random chances of attaining skill levels after playing 4 games. Draftees do not count in the 3 rookie per season limit. Draft order: 1) Fly Girls, 2) BeeBop, 3) Les Miserables, 4) Birds, 5) T-Wolves, 6) Iceguys, 7) Savoy, 8) Veggies, 9) Rockies, 10) MOPAC. The third and final round will be next month for \$200K. (Note that #10 has been corrected to total 100%).

1. G III 6	16.F r 50:1/25:4/25:6
2. G r 30:1/30:3/40:5	17.F r 25:1/45:4/30:5
***G r 40:2/40:4/20:6	18.F r 35:2/35:3/30:5
4. G r 10:0/10:1/20:2/30:4/30:5	19.F IV 5
5. G r 20:0/20:2/30:4/30:5	20.F r 60:2/40:6
6. G r 30:1/45:3/25:6	**D III 7
7. G r 25:1/25:3/25:4/25:5	22.D r 2
8. G r 40:2/60:4	23.D r 20:1/40:3/40:5
9. G r 50:1/50:5	24.D r 45:2/35:3/20:5
10.G r 30:3/30:4/40:5	25.D r 20:0/40:2/40:5
11.F r 2	26.D r 45:1/55:5
***F r 50:3/50:4	27.D r 10:1/20:2/30:3/20:4/20:5
13.F r 50:0/50:6	28.D r 10:0/15:1/40:3/35:5
14.F r 25:0/50:3/25:6	29.D r 75:3/25:5
***F r 40:2/20:4/40:6	30.D r 50:2/25:4/25:6

I forgot to ask for names with your picks, and sure enough most of you forgot them. They will temporarily bear the names of National Public Radio reporters, but I'll allow you to give them permanent names in Session I. But if anyone forgets a name in the future, they get stuck with the name I think up.

T-WOLVES #3 G Gilles Godot ICEGUYS #12 F (Hockenberry)
SAVOY #15 F (Totenberg) VEGIES #21 D (Montagne)

MIST COUNTY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SEASON TWO ROSTERS (if player's name has changed, old name is in parentheses)

BEEBOP (Matthew Chen, 877 Benedeti Dr #204, Naperville IL 60540)
GL Busy/r;
DF Benatar/I, Basie/I, Bizet/I, Bizarre/r;
FW Bach/I, Beethoven/I, Brahms/I, Bartok/I, Berlioz/I, Belius/I, Bogus/I, Bozo/I, Bowie/r

BIRDS (Bernard Bearry, 1196 Normandy Rd, Macon GA 31210)
GL Victor Vulture/r;
DF Henry Hawk/I, Ron Swan/I, Bob Bluejay/I, Robbie Robin/r;
FW Harvey Hummingbird/I, Al Eagle/I, Carl Cardinal/I, Steve Sparrow/I, Jerry Raven/I, Joe Buzzard/I, Ted Thrasher/I, David Dove/I, Pete Pigeon/r

CACHE LA POUDRE VALLEY ROCKIES (Alexander Pyle, 500 W Prospect Rd #23-L, Fort Collins CO 80526)
GL Harold Goldwine/I;
DF Offa/II, Canute/II, Penda/II, AEthelbert/II, Cerdic/I, Ceawlin/I;
FW Alfred the Great/II, Edward the Elder/II, Edward the Martyr/II, AElle/II, Harthacanute/II, AEthelstan/II

EAT YOUR VEGETABLES (James Goode, 443 Greenwood Ave, Clarksville TN 37040)
GL Pumpkin/I;
DF Carrot/II, Garlic/II, Onion/II, Mattingly/IV, Radish/II;
FW Bean/II, Broccoli/II, Cabbage/II, Cauliflower/II, Corn/I, Eggplant/II, Okra/I, Pea/II, Spinach/II, Hawkins/III

THE FLY GIRLS (Kevin Brown, 100 Patton Dr, Warner Robins GA 31098)
GL Chanda/I;
DF Xavia/I, Yvette/I, Charlene I, Geraldine/I, Kayrin/I, Cassandra/r;
FW Shinetha/I, Uneeda/I, Rosalind/I, Zandra/I, Genene/I,

THE FLY GIRLS (cont.)

Evelyn/I, Rose/r, Paulette/r

ICEGUYS (formerly nICEGUYS) (Bill Becker, 1515 Ridgewood Dr, Jenison MI 49428)
GL Goldie Glove/II;
DF Blade Runner/II, Killer Frost/II, N Forcer/II, Bobby Czech/II, Noel Numnose/I, Buck Passer/I;
FW Cole Hands/II, Warren Hart/II, Gustav Wind/II, Sam Bony/II, Hy Perthermia/I;
D/F Melt Down/IV

LES MISERABLES (Bruce Geryk, 5528 S Everett #3D, Chicago IL 60637)

GL Marius/r;
DF Courfeyrac/I, Valjean/I, Gavroche/I, Javert/I;
FW Fauchelevant/I, Gillenormand/I, Leblanc/I, Thnardier/I, Bossuet/I, Combeferre/I, Mabeuf/I, Jondrette/r, Thodule/r

MISSOURI POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (Noel Blythe, 972 Nieman Rd, Holts Summit MO 65043)
GL Harry S Truman/II;
DF Meredith Marmaduke/II, Lewis Linn/II, David Barton/II, Austin King/II, Warren Hearnes/II, James T Blair/I, Omar Bradley/II;
FW David Rice Atchison/II, Silver Dick Bland/II, Thomas Hart Benton/II, James Champ Clark/II, Francis Cockrell/I, Thomas Crittenden/I, Hancock Lee Jackson/IV, Black Jack Pershing/I

OTTAWA VALLEY TIMBERWOLVES (formerly F/X) (Bryce Allen, 2-5 Monk St, Ottawa ONT K1S 3Y5 CANADA)

GL (Pal)Max/Keeping/II;
DF (Hitchcock)Delmer McGregor/II, (Ogata)Cecil Wiggins II, (Gwynne)Angel McCrimmon/I, (Perkins)Jean-Luc Koukopoulos/I, Chris Cashen/r, Billy Worshyl/r;
FW (Chaney)Shug Dejardins/II, (Karloff)Skeeter Teal/II, (Lorre)Wayne Rostad/II, (Rains)Serge Manseau/II, (Lugosi) Nikki Wycerzski/II, (Floyd)Bobby Shipclark/I, (Warhol) Gordie Talbot/IV, (Spielberg)Birnbaum Krongold/V, Vlad Vukasinovic/r

SAVOY (formerly COCHONS) (Michael Hopcraft, 2190 W Burnside #108, Portland OR 97210)

GL (Waldegaard)Sullivan/II;
DF (Toivonen)Katisha/II, (Cresto)Pooh-bah/II, (Kankkunen) Gaea/II, (Piironen)Plaza-toro/I, (Brophyhill)Rackstraw/III;
FW (Moutinho)Ko-ko/II, (Fortes)Porter/II, (Sabi)Stanley/II, (Gallagher)Bunthorne/II, (Fauchille)Wells II, (Salonen) Grossmith/II, (Siviero)Barrington/II, (Harjanne)Green/I, (Biasion)Pratt/I, (Buffum)Reed/VI

In my home town, Madison, Minnesota, pop 2500, Christmas was very simple. You were either Lutheran Norwegians (like my family) or German Catholics. It was a time for family to gather, to eat traditional food (for us, kringla (cookies), lefse (potato flatbread) and lutefisk (you don't want to know.)) But in the city, it's different. There is so much shopping and hustle and we don't have so much in common with our neighbors and friends. Many are Muslims or Jews and don't celebrate Christmas, but have special holidays with family meaning just as much. And now I have Frauke, whose family is in Germany. She has to share Christmas with them by telephone and air parcel post. Every year she says she will be ready to mail her package by surface on Oct 31, but she never makes it and spends a fortune on postage. It's still postage well spent, and at 6 pm on Dec 24, there will be at least one caller asking the operator in Madison to make a call to West Germany. Even if we can escape for just a couple of days, a few precious hours is all it takes.

We both hope that each of you find this Christmas the peace and love we will share. It might be hard, if you are alone. Depression is so common at this time of year. But hopefully in the midst of all the rush and bustle and crassness, our simple wish can come true. Merry Christmas!

MIST COUNTY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PLAYOFFS!!

GM: Scott Hanson, 3508 4th Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55408-4511

BLUE DIVISION PLAYOFF RESULTS

MOPAC SWEEPS KEYS AFTER FIRST GAME SCARE

MOPAC appeared to be resting on their regular season laurels in game 1. Key goalie Bink faced an incredible 111 shots in regulation, and stopped all but 4. The big MOPAC shooters were silent until 4:30 of the second overtime. Bink's magic ran out as Atchison's shot went in for the game winner. Bink lost his touch in the game 2 laugher.

KEYS 4

Humphrey, Murphy-2, Roognd-pp
pen-5: Crunch-2, Humphrey,
Murphy, Snortimer

32 + 11pp +7ot shots

MOPAC 16

Atchison-6, Benton-2, Bland-2, Chester-1+pp, Humphrey, Murphy
Clark-2, Crockrell-pp,
Crittenden-2, Linn

pen-5: Crittenden, Jackson, pen-1: Snortimer

92 + 4pp shots

MOPAC 5 (2 overtimes)

Atchison-ot, Blair, Clark,
Crockrell, Crittenden
pen-6: Blair, Bradley,
Jackson, Linn, Marmaduke,
Pershing

89 + 22pp + 15ot shots

KEYS 4

Atchison-6, Benton-2, Bland-2, Chester-1+pp, Humphrey, Murphy
Clark-2, Crockrell-pp,
Crittenden-2, Linn

pen-1: Snortimer

44 + 5pp shots

NICEGUYS STUN FAVERED SOCKHEADS

The Niceguys stunned SOCK in straight 8-0 and 7-1 victories. Glove hardly worked up a sweat in net, facing just 28 shots in the two games. SOCK goalie Bobby Sock could only watch the carnage as the NICEGUYS got off 70 shots in game 2.

NICEGUYS 8

Czech, Frost, Hands-2, Heart,
Runner-2, Wind

pen-3: Down, Perthermia, Wind pen-1: GI Joe

51 + 2pp shots 13 + 3pp shots

S.O.C.K. 0

pen-1: GI Joe

13 + 3pp shots

S.O.C.K. 1

Robin Hands, Heart-2, Numnose,
Passer, Perthermia, Wind

pen-2: Alfred, Monstar pen-2: Bony, Wind

10 + 2pp shots 66 + 4pp shots

RED DIVISION PLAYOFF RESULTS

F/X ONE MIRACLE SHORT, BOW IN THREE TO ROCKIES

The most exciting series by far saw the home team pull the goalie to tie and go on to win in overtime in the first two games. The Rockies had to watch Lorre just miss an empty net goal before tying game 1. Penalties caught up with the F/X in game 3, and they pulled Pal out of goal one more time only to watch Alfred put the series clincher into the empty goal.

F/X 4

Floyd, Karloff-2, Lorre

pen-1: Warhol

17 + 1ot shots

ROCKIES 5 (overtime)

Alfred-pq+ot, Cerdic-2, Offa

pen-0:

31 + 2ot shots

ROCKIES 3

AEthelbert, Canute, Ceawlin

pen-1: AEthelbert

19 + 1pp + 3ot shots

F/X 4 (2 overtimes)

Floyd-ot, Karloff, Lorre-1+pp

pen-1: Warhol

14 + 1pp + 3ot shots

F/X 4

Floyd-2, Lugosi, Rains

pen-4: Peckinpaw-2, Spielberg,

pen-2: AEthelbert, Ceawlin

Warhol

14 + 2pp shots

24 + 4pp shots

VEGIES IN THREE OVER CONEJOS

After being shut out in game 1, the Conejos roared at home for 12 goals to tie the series. The Conejos shooters hit home in game 3, but goalie Allende got no help as penalties finally wore him down in the 15-7 final.

CONEJOS 0

Broccoli, Cabbage-3, Corn,
Okra, Spinach-2
pen-5: Bolivar-3, Guevara-2
23 + 2pp shots 71 + 11pp shots

VEGIES 8

Broccoli, Cabbage, Eggplant,
Okra-2, Spinach-3
pen-2: Eggplant, Spinach
78 + 5pp shots

CONEJOS 7

Bolivar, Marti-2, Rodriguez-2, Broccoli, Cabbage-2, Cauli-2,
Sandino-2 Corn-2, Eggplant-21pp,
Hawkins, Okra-2, Spinach
pen-6: Bishop-2, Davario-3, pen-1: Eggplant

Fonseca

34 + 1pp shots

ROUND TWO PLAYOFFS

BLUE DIVISION FINAL: MOPAC vs NICEGUYS

game 1 at MOPAC game 2 at NICEGUYS

RED DIVISION FINAL: ROCKIES vs VEGETABLES

game 1 at ROCKIES game 2 at VEGETABLES

Game 3 if needed has no home advantage. Deadline is November 17, but I'll play these games as soon as I receive your lineups.

LEAGUE EMBARRASSED AS COMPUTER GLITCH FIXES GAMES

I've just discovered that the spreadsheet I've written to adjudicate these game has a serious error. For defensive shots, it has been calculating D-D rather than D-F as in the rules. This has given a huge advantage to teams with big defenses against weak defenses. Since I've been using the flawed formulas all season, I'm continuing to use them in the playoffs, but corrections will be made next season. Now that I think about it, I may just add D-D shots to the new formulas.

DIVISIONAL ALIGNMENT

BRUCE GERYK: "With a hockey league, it seems less realistic to have a first division and a second division with promotion/demotion. Perhaps an "Americanized" set-up, where the divisions are all part of the same "division" but weaker clubs play each other more would be more "hockey-like"? Perhaps something like James Goode's organization?"

This was one of my dilemmas in thinking about divisions, since team promotion is a central part of UNITED SOCCER. Unfortunately, I'm not familiar with the set up in DISEASE CITY. Care to explain it to me, James?

The divisions as listed are tentative. However the divisions are arranged, I do want strong teams to have tougher schedules than weak teams. Also, since only 6 teams returned from last season, I'd rather start a third division than give an expansion team a "tough" schedule.

The more I look at it, the more I like the small divisions. If we get no new teams, the schedule will be 16 games in the division (4 with each team) and 10 other games (2 with each team). If we get two more teams, I'd have 2 6-team divisions. If we get 5 more, they will form a third division.